

TRANSPORTATION



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DIVISION OF MOTOR CARRIER AND RAILROAD SAFETY

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Holden Merges Transportation Agencies to Ensure Better Safety and Service, Lower Costs

JEFFERSON CITY – Gov. Bob Holden has merged four agencies currently serving motor carrier and railroad operators in Missouri. The combination will result in lower costs to both state government and the businesses involved.

Holden signed an executive order designating the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) to run the commercial-carrier industry's "One-Stop Shop" for all its licensing and permit needs. Commercial vehicles include trucks, tractor-trailers, buses, limousines and others that transport property, passengers, hazardous materials or waste.

"The motor-carrier and railroad industries are vital to Missouri's economy, and streamlining their registration and regulatory processes benefits them, as well as taxpayers," said Holden. "Implementing the Motor Carrier Services Unit will take some effort on everyone's part, but once completed, it is projected to save Missourians as much as \$3.8 million with better, more efficient operations."

On March 19, 2001, Holden issued an executive order to improve efficiency and make registering and regulating motor carriers in Missouri more cost effective. As it stands now, commercial-vehicle operators must visit four separate state agencies in Jefferson City to acquire all the necessary licensing and permit documentation.

The Missouri Department of Revenue, the Missouri Department of Economic Development, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and MoDOT all play a role in the registration and regulation of motor carriers in Missouri. They began working together last year to streamline these processes.

"The safety and prosperity of all Missourians can be promoted by the reduction in duplication of efforts among the four departments regulating the motor-carrier industry," Holden said.

Commercial-vehicle operators would benefit from a single point-of-contact for all their registration and licensing needs, which allows for better accuracy and customer service.

With the One-Stop Shop, MoDOT would process all applications for commercial-vehicle operation, annually register all Missouri-based motor carriers, and collect and remit International Fuel Tax Agreement taxes received from motor carriers.

Legislation will be introduced to change the statutes affected by this consolidation. Senator Morris Westfall, chairman of the Senate's Transportation Committee, and Representative Don Koller, chairman of the House Transportation Committee, will introduce the legislation.

As part of Holden's executive order, a plan to develop a single motor-carrier-service office in Jefferson City must be available by Jan. 1, 2003. The legislature has 60 days to reject the executive order.

**Compliance
Outreach
Training**
Starting in **April**
(See Page 3)

THE OFFICE OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY

...for the Safe Transportation of Hazardous Materials

Human error is the probable cause of most transportation incidents and associated consequences involving the release of hazardous materials.

When are hazardous materials most hazardous? When they're released! The scene of an incident can be chaotic, so the right actions may not always be obvious. Whom should I inform if I'm involved in an incident where a release or a suspected release of a hazardous material has taken place in transportation? The regulations in 49 CFR 171.15 and 171.16 govern such situations. Two phases of incident reporting are required in the regulations. Section 171.15 covers immediate telephonic notification following an incident and §171.16 outlines written reporting procedures.

If you have any questions regarding the incident reporting requirements telephone (202) 366-4555 or contact RSPA by email at **hmis@rspa.dot.gov**

FMCSA OUT-OF-SERVICE ORDERS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration has made information regarding motor carrier out-of-service orders available to the public. Out-of-service orders are issued for reasons relating to "imminent hazard," unsatisfactory safety ratings, and failure to pay fines. Search by carrier or review the entire listing at: **http://fhwa-li.volpe.dot.gov/LIVIEW/pkg_menu.prc_menu**



The State of Missouri has a new website for Motor Carriers. This website has been designed to help you access information and forms for registration, special operations and permitting, CDL and Missouri Drivers License. From this website, you are linked to the agency web pages and fillable forms for compliance and other information. This website can be accessed at **<http://www.carrier.state.mo.us/>**.

The **US Department of Transportation** has a do-it-yourself website where you can complete and submit some federal forms online. Check it out at **<https://diy.dot.gov/diyhome80.htm>**.

MOTOR CARRIER AND RAILROAD SAFETY OFFERS OUTREACH SEMINARS ON SAFETY COMPLIANCE AND BASIC HAZARDOUS MATERIAL

The Missouri Division of Motor Carrier and Railroad Safety is offering (7) basic safety and (1) hazardous material training seminars. The "How to Survive a Compliance Review" focuses on those issues typically evaluated during compliance reviews. The "Basic Hazardous Materials" training focuses on "non-bulk" hazardous material issues. The training will be conducted at various locations throughout the State of Missouri during the month of April 2002.

Attendees will be better prepared for safety & hazardous materials, roadside inspections, as well as compliance reviews conducted by the Division of Motor Carrier and Railroad Safety or the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. There is no charge for the seminar(s).

SAFETY OUTREACH TRAINING LOCATIONS & DATES

**Springfield, MO
April 4, 2002**

Ramada Inn
2820 N. Glenstone
Springfield, MO
417-869-3900

**Cape Girardeau, MO
April 24, 2002**

Drury Lodge
104 S. Vantage
Cape Girardeau, MO
573-334-7151

**Kansas City, MO
April 29, 2002**

Park Place Hotel
1601 N. Universal Ave.
Kansas City, MO
816-483-9900

**Clinton, MO
April 10, 2002**

Days Inn
201 W. Rives Road
Clinton, MO
660-885-6901

**Earth City, MO
April 11, 2002**

Four Points Sheraton
3400 Rider Trail South
Earth City, MO
314-291-6800

**Hannibal, MO
April 2, 2002**

Hannibal Inn
4141 Market Street
Hannibal, MO
573-221-6610

**Jefferson City, MO
April 17, 2002**

Best Western Inn
1937 Christy Drive
Jefferson City, MO
573-635-4175

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS OUTREACH TRAINING LOCATON & DATE "Basic non-bulk issues"

**Jefferson City, MO
April 16, 2002**

Best Western Inn
1937 Christy Drive
Jefferson City, MO
573-635-4175

All training sessions are scheduled to run from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Seating is limited, so make your reservations now. For more information and to make reservations, please contact Mary Upton or Ann Vaught toll free at 1-866-831-6277 extension #2, FAX (573) 751-4354, or e-mail at mupton@mail.state.mo.us



MODOT PRESS RELEASE:

**SAFER TRAFFIC FLOW IS GOAL OF RAIL CROSSING
IMPROVEMENTS ON JAMES RIVER FREEWAY**

District 8, Springfield – Work is scheduled to begin Tuesday, February 12, on a project designed to improve driving safety at the railroad tracks that cross the James River Freeway just west of U.S. 65 in Springfield, the Missouri Department of Transportation said.

Electric advanced warning signs will be set up to better alert drivers that a train is blocking the highway. Gates will be installed that will drop down to stop vehicles when a train is traveling in the crossing.

The safety improvements at the Burlington Northern-Santa Fe Railroad crossing on the high-speed freeway will have two impacts:

1. Passenger buses and trucks hauling hazardous materials will no longer be required to stop automatically at the tracks unless the gates are down for a train.
2. When a train is approaching and passing through the crossing, the new electronic signs will give drivers better advanced warning that they must stop.

The stop exemption and the electric advanced warning signs together are designed to keep traffic flowing smoother and reduce the number of rear-end accidents that occur when cars back up at the railroad crossing.

On Tuesday, crews with Hartman and Company of Springfield will begin boring underneath the James River Freeway (U.S. 60) to begin the process of installing electrical conduit. This work will be done about 10 feet off the shoulder and will NOT interfere with traffic on the freeway.

However, the speed limit on the James River Freeway will be reduced to 50 mph when crews are working near the roadway.

No lane closings on the James River Freeway will be needed this week. A westbound lane of the freeway (U.S. 60), beginning on the bridge over Lake Springfield, may be closed for a day next week. MoDOT will provide more detailed advanced information to the public if that lane closing is needed.

Hartman won the contract to do MoDOT's work on the railroad crossing improvements with a bid of \$233,039. Work along the tracks approaching the crossing will be done by BNSF, and that includes installing the gates.

During construction, MoDOT will use portable electronic message boards on the James River Freeway and on U.S. 65 to warn drivers of the work at the railroad crossing.

Messages on the rail crossing project also will be broadcast on MoDOT's Bridge Radio, a low-power AM radio station in place for the bridge building job at Route 65 and Sunshine Street. The station broadcasts on 1610 AM.

Once the advanced warning signs are installed by May at the railroad crossing on the James River Freeway, the signs will be tested for 30 days. The railroad crossing will be posted as "exempt" by the end of June. Completion date for the project is scheduled for June 28.

Reference Guide

Agency	Web Site	Telephone
Division of Motor Carrier & Railroad Safety	www.ecodev.state.mo.us/mcrs/	866 831-6277
Carrier One Stop	www.carrier.state.mo.us/	
Highway Reciprocity Commission	www.dor.state.mo.us/hrc/	573 751-6433
Department of Transportation	www.modot.state.mo.us	800 275-6636
Department of Revenue	www.dor.state.mo.us	
Department of Natural Resources	www.dnr.state.mo.us	800 334-6946
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Association	www.fmcsa.dot.gov	
Federal Railroad Administration	www.fra.dot.gov	
Missouri State Highway Patrol	www.mshp.state.mo.us	800 222-6400

New Toll Free Phone Number for Motor Carrier & Railroad Safety

If you have questions or need assistance regarding Registration, Enforcement, or Railroad issues you can now call toll free: **866-831-MCRS (6277)**

EMPLOYEE NEWS

MCRS Employee of the Year



Marty Rush

Marty Rush, Computer Information Technologist II, has been named the Division of Motor Carrier & Railroad Safety's 2001 Employee of the Year. Rush joined the Division May 16, 2000.

Employees of the Month

Gary J. Holtmeyer, Jr., Counsel, was named the Division of Motor Carrier & Railroad Safety's Employee of the Month for February 2002. Holtmeyer joined the Division's General Counsel January 5, 2001.

Employees of the Month (Cont'd)

Pamela Schulte, Office Support Assistant, was named the Division's Employee of the Month for March 2002. Pamela joined the Division's Registration Section September 16, 2001.

Welcome Back

Darrell Chute, Transportation Enforcement Inspector III returned from active duty with the United States Air Force on February 11, 2002.



Darrell was activated October 24, 2001, and was stationed at Whiteman Air Force Base in Knob Noster, Missouri.

Welcome back, Darrell!!

